are vacancies existing in various categories of Nursing staff;

(b) if so, what action is proposed for speedy filling up of the posts;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the managemesnt of AIIMS agreed to assign duties earlier discharged by nursing sisters to only some promotees; and

(d) if so, what are the reasons for assigning such duties to all promotees at present ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Action is taken as per prescribed procedure for recruitment.

(c) Yes, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

Filling up the posts of Staff Nurses in AIIMS

4657. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of staff nurses who are on long leave are working abroad ;

(b) if so, the number of employees who work abroad taking long leave ; and details thereof ;

(c) what action is taken by Government against such employees, if no action is taken, what are the reasons therefor;

(d) whether it is also a fact that AIIMS has agreed to fill up all vacant posts of nursing staff at entry point level ; and

(e) if so, what action has been taken to fill up such posts ; if not what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) No definite information is available.

(b) and (c) 41 Nurses of AIIMS are reported to be on long leave without prior permission/sanction of the competent authority. Suitable disciplinary action against erring nurses is initiated by the Institute.

(d) Yes, Sir.

(e) Ad hoc arrangements are made to meet the immediate needs of patient care

Promotion of Staff Nurses in AIIMS

4658. SHRI A. NALLASIVAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that while in other Government hospitals the eligibility criteria of 5 years experience as staff Nurse for promotion to Sister Grade I is relaxed to 3 years whereas AIIMS is not implementing such relaxation ;

(b) if so, what is the justification thereof ;

(c) whether it is a fact that out of 432 agreed posts of Sister Grade I in AIIMS only 178 were filled up, if so, what action is being taken to fill up the remaining posts ; and

(d) whether it is a fact that 116 Nursing staff awaiting their posting as Sister Grade I are not given any chance despite the existing vacancies as stated above ; if so, what are the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND) : (a) and (b) In so far as All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) is concerned, 5 years experience has been prescribed for promotion to the post of Sister Grade I from Sister Grade II. Since AIIMS is a statutory and autonomous body its employees are govern by the recruitment rules framed by the Institute.

(c) and (d) It has been reported by the Institute that out of 432 posts of Sister Grade I, 397 have been filled in. The remaining 35 posts could not be filled due to non-availability of SC/ST candidates.